

A New Species of the Genus *Neptis* FABRICIUS (Lepidoptera, Nymphalidae) from West Malaysia

Kimitaka SASAKI

1-10-16, Sarayama, Minami-ku, Fukuoka, 815 Japan

In the course of my taxonomic study on the genus *Neptis*, I found a new species belonging to the *hylas*-group from West Malaysia in Mr. NAKAYAMA's collection. In this paper, I describe this new taxon.

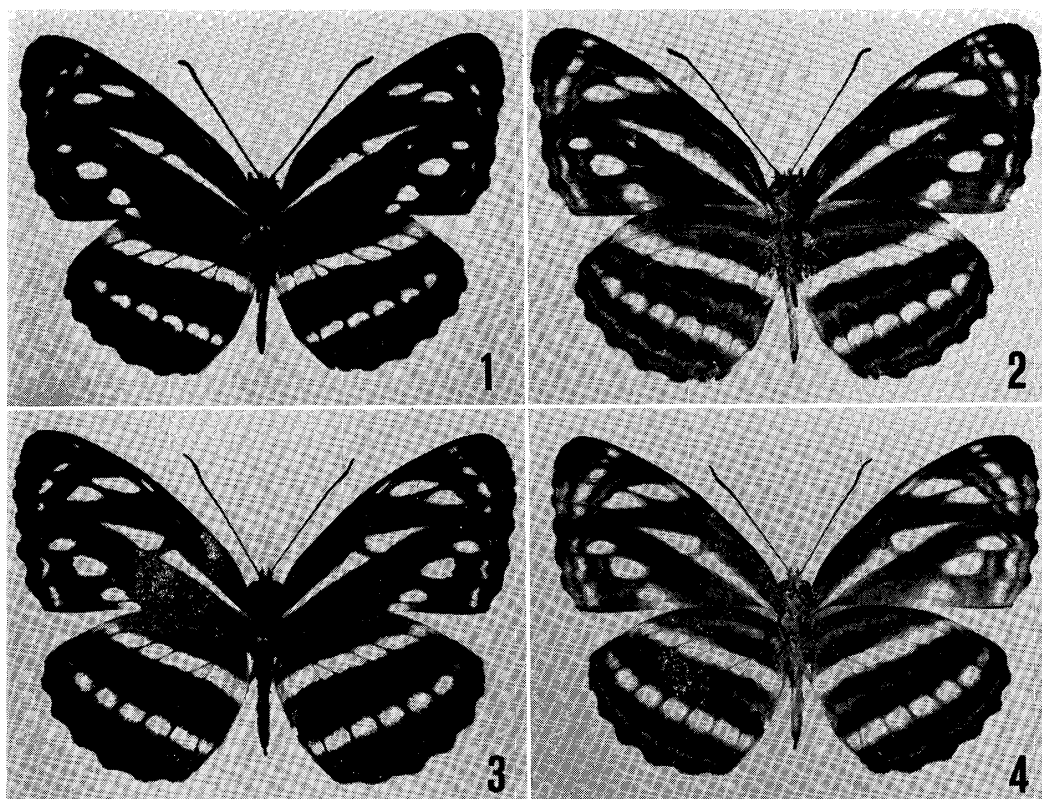
Neptis sedata sp. nov.

♂ (Figs. 1-2). Forewing roughly narrow triangular; costa almost straight, very slightly arched; apex more or less angulate; termen almost straight; dorsum rather sinuous. Hindwing ovate; costa arched, fairly angulate at its middle; apex blunt; termen weakly and evenly round; tornus bluntly angulate; dorsum arched.

Upperside: Ground colour black with white markings. On forewing cell streak narrow and sharply divided from the streak beyond cell, of which apex is sharply pointed; upper postdiscal band sharply divided by black veins, spots in spaces 5 and 6 reduced to oval ones, that in space 10 barely traceable; lower postdiscal band slightly curved outwardly, round spot in space 1a the smallest and oval one in space 2 the largest; submarginal series in spaces 5 and 6 well defined, but those in spaces 1b to 4 poorly developed, but that in space 3 usually absent; cilia dark with narrow white chequering in spaces 1b, 2, 4, 5 and 8. On hindwing discal band evenly narrow and slightly sinuous, spot in space 8 obscure; postdiscal band somewhat narrower than discal one, sharply divided by black veins, represented by oval spots in spaces 2 to 5; cilia dark brown with narrow white chequering in spaces 1b to 7.

Underside: Ground colour dark brown with grayish white markings. On forewing cell streak and streak beyond cell broader than those on upperside and almost conjoined with each other; upper postdiscal band broader than that on upperside, divided by narrow veins; postdiscal fascia of highly irregular and curved streak from spaces 2 to 6; submarginal series broader than that of upperside, clearly defined from spaces 1b to 8, but in space 3 almost disappearing; submarginal fascia traceable in spaces 1b, 2, 4 and 5; speculum brownish black, occupying basal halves of spaces 1b and 2. On hindwing basal streak narrow, $1/3 \times$ as long as vein 8; subbasal streak weakly developed and somewhat obscure, but fairly distinct basally; discal band as that on upperside, but somewhat broader; grayish brown discal fascia almost straight or slightly curved, with its outer margin somewhat concaved in each space; postdiscal band as that on upperside, but broader; indistinct submarginal fascia sometimes slightly concaved in each space; marginal fascia obscure.

Male genitalia (Fig. 5): Tegumen large, vinculum $1/2 \times$ as deep as height of ring. Uncus almost as long as tegumen, arched dorsally near its base, gradually narrowed posteriorly, abruptly bent ventrally near its apex, and sharply pointed ter-



Figs. 1-4. *Neptis sedata* sp. nov. (1) Holotype ♂; (2) ditto, underside; (3) paratype ♀; (4) ditto, underside.

minally. Gnathos $1/2 \times$ as long as height of ring, narrow and slightly curved. Appendix angularis well developed, curved anteriorly and sharply pointed terminally. Valva long and narrow; terminal ampulla with an enormous sickle-shaped process and small protuberance near base of the former process. Phallus almost as long as height of ring, almost straight, gradually narrowed posteriorly, slightly bent dorsally near its apex and sharply pointed terminally; subzonal portion nearly $1/2 \times$ as long as phallus; cornutus represented by many minute spines. Juxta U-shaped.

Length of forewing: 22.7–25.4 mm.

♀ (Figs. 3–4). Similar to male, but slightly larger. Both wings rounder; forewing apex less angulated. Ground colour paler and markings generally broader; on upper-side submarginal series well developed, sharply defined in spaces 1b to 8; postdiscal fascia barely traceable; hindwing submarginal fascia weakly defined. On underside hindwing basal streak shorter, $1/4 \times$ as long as vein 8.

Female genitalia (Fig. 6): Anterolateral portions of 8th abdominal tergum each with a sclerotized pocket long oval, intermediate between the usual *hylas*-group and *nata*-group in shape.

Length of forewing: 24.0–25.2 mm.

Holotype ♂, near Taiping, West Malaysia, 7. iii. 1976. (Holotype will be deposited in the Biological Laboratory, College of General Education, Kyushu University, Fukuoka).

Paratypes: 1♂, near Taiping, vi. 1977; 1♂, Kampong Sahom, iv. 1979; 1♀, near Taiping, vi. 1978; 1♀, Cameron Highland, viii. 1979. (Paratypes will be de-

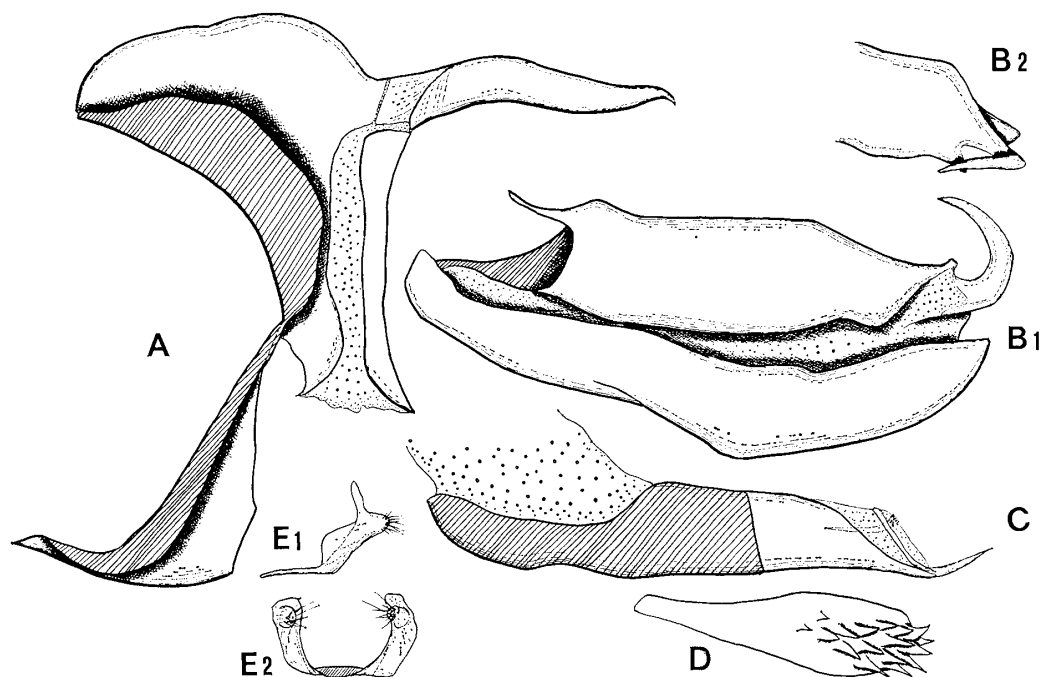


Fig. 5. Male genitalia of *Neptis sedata* sp. nov., paratype. A: Lateral aspect of ring. B1: Inner aspect of right hand valva. B2: Dorsal aspect of right hand valva. C: Lateral aspect of phallus. D: Cornutus. E1: Lateral aspect of juxta. E2: Posterior aspect of juxta.

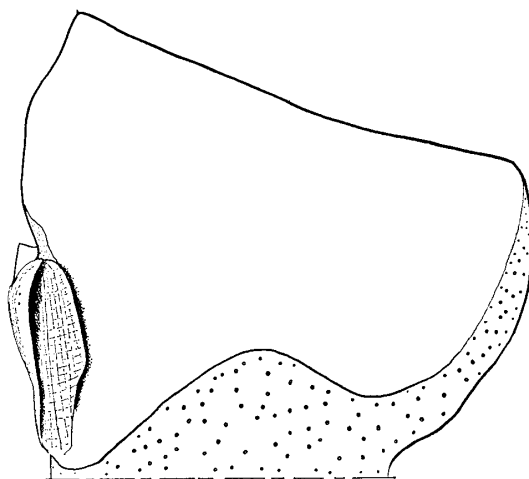


Fig. 6. Lateral aspect of 8th abdominal tergum of *Neptis sedata* sp. nov.

posited in the Biological Laboratory, College of General Education, Kyushu University and in NAKAYAMA's and the author's collections.)

Remarks. This new species superficially very closely resembles *Neptis nata* MOORE, 1857 and *N. leucoporus* FRUHSTORFER, 1908 both of which belong to the *nata*-group, but the new species is somewhat smaller and has the blackish gray speculum in the male. However, the male genital structure of the new taxon is identical with that of the *hylas*-group in having the large sickle-shaped process at the terminal ampulla of valva. The new species resembles *N. clinia* MOORE, 1872 in the *hylas*-group, but in

the latter the ground colour is fuliginous black with creamy-white markings and the male speculum is brownish gray.

Acknowledgement

I wish to express my deepest appreciation to Prof. Emerit. Takashi SHIRÔZU, Prof. Toyohei SAIGUSA and Mr. Osamu YATA of the Biological Laboratory, College of General Education, Kyushu University, for their constant guidance and critical readings of the manuscript, and Mr. Masaki NAKAYAMA of Kitakyushu for giving me the valuable materials.

摘 要

マレー半島産 *Neptis* 属の 1 新種 (鱗翅目, タテハチョウ科) (佐々木公隆)

マレー半島から, *Neptis* 属の 1 新種 *Neptis sedata* SASAKI を記載した. この新種は, 雄交尾器 *ampulla* 末端突起が鎌状に突出すること, 雌交尾器第 8 腹節背板前下方の陥入部が基本的に卵型を示すなどの特徴に基づき *hylas* 群に含まれる. 本群においては, 本種は, *N. clinia* MOORE, 1872 に比較的近似するが, 後者では, 翅表の地色がくすんだ黒色であり, また, 雄裏面の性斑が灰褐色である. また, 本新種は, *nata* 群に属する *N. nata* MOORE, 1857 や *N. leucoporus* FRUHSTORFER, 1908 に一見酷似するが, これら両者よりやや小型である.